Appomattox Railroad Festival:

Readers Note:

Any weekly newspaper's ultimate purpose is to function as a mouthpiece for the community it serves. At the Times-Virginian, the ability to chronicle the goings on of Appomattox County . . . its people and events . . . is a priviledge we hold dear.

A case in point is the Railroad Festival held this past weekend. Aside from being barrels of fun for everyone involved, the Railroad Festival is a concrete example of what really makes a small, close community such a worthy place in which to live.

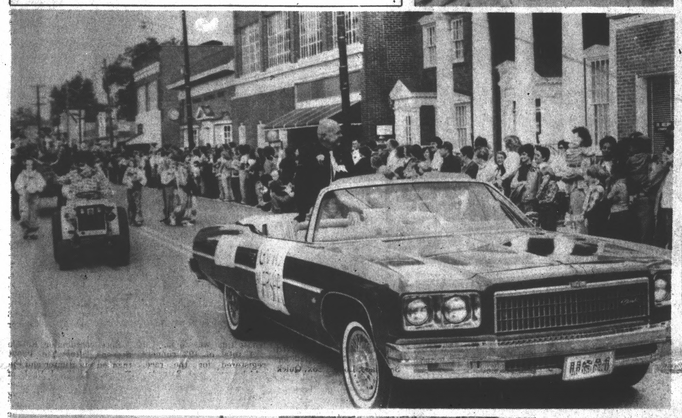
The Railroad Festival is true Small Town Americanna: It is the stuff of which the greatest nation in the world is made.

And we at the Times-Virginian are proud to have the priviledge of recounting the events of this, as well as other worthy events in Appomattox County.

But we cannot do it alone. Getting the news to the reader takes not only the efforts of the newspaper staff, but also the support of the community: the readers, the news sources, and most particularly, the advertisers.

So, we ask that our readers take note of the names listed at the bottom of this and the following page. If you see a merchant or individual whose name is listed below, please stop and thank him for helping to bring you news and photos of the Eight Annual Railroad Festival.

Without the cooperation of our advertisers, Appomattox might not have a newspaper. But after all, cooperation is what makes Small Town America what it is.



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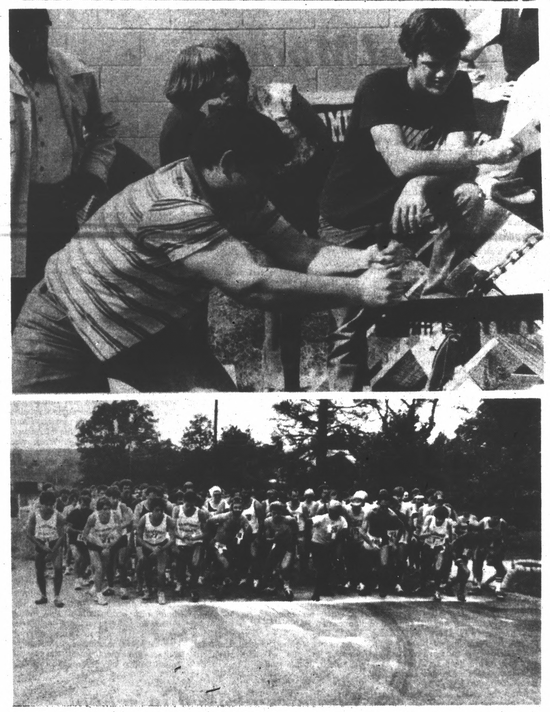
A Barrel of Fun for Young and Old



Contests held at RRF

Bluebird weather and a bonus crowd marked the eighth annual Historical Appomattox County Railroad Festival, held this Saturday and Sunday in the town of Appomattox.

While no concrete figure was available as to total attendance, event officials estimated that the crowd each day during the festival was in the thousands.

Along with the music, arts-and-crafts sales, and general fun, there were a number of contests and events during the festival. Listed below are the results of those contests:

Parade winners are as follows: Twirlers - First place, Spindle Spinners, Second place - Midlothian High School; Flags - First Place, Spindle Spinners, Second place, Fork Union; Rifles, First Place, Spindle Spinners, Second Place, Midlothian High School; Band - First Place - Midlothian High School Floats - First Place, Brownie Troop, Second Place FFA; Third Place, Girl Scout Troop 336; Antique Cars - First Place, Pat Lair, Second Place, J. W. Lewis, Third, Charles Carter; Horses - First, K. C. Paulette, Second, K. C. Paulette, Third, Patti Stratton.

In the Historical Costume Contest, winners were as follows: Children (13 and under) Valerie Guill; Seniors, (14-19 years) Beverly Coleman; Women, Margaret Lee; Men, Harold Wyatt; Couples, Harold Wyatt and Margaret Lee; Families, Harold Wyatt, Margaret Lee and Valerie Guill.

Winners in the Bake-Off Contest are as follows: Adult Group, Cakes-2nd Geraldine Marshall; Cookies 1st, Lynette Hall, 2nd Jennifer Midgett, and 3rd Geraldine Marshall; Yeast Breads - 1st Betty Franklin, 2nd Geraldine Mitchell, 3rd Sharon White and tied for 3rd place, Louise Cox; Quick breads - 1st Pearl Mitchell, 2nd Gaye Stevens; Decorated cakes 1st Brenda Drinkard.

In the children and youth group winners were: Cakes - 1st, Lisa Campbell; Decorated cakes, 1st place, Dawn Hancock, Best in the show award went to Betty Franklin for yeast bread; and Brenda Drinkard for Decorated cake. In the youth division - Lisa Campbell, Cake; Dawn Hancock, decorated cake. Winners in the 'Best In The Show' received a $10.00 prize.

J. D. Martin and Lyle (Junior) Eagle were victorious for the third consecutive year in the annual Railroad Day Crosscut Sawing Contest sponsored by Virginia Fibre Corp. and the Senior FFA Chapter. The winning team took only 19 seconds to cut through an 8" x 8" pine log, six seconds faster than the second-place team of Larry White and Billy Perrow. Third place was won by Roger Walton and Ray Cheatham.

The Gladstone Fire Department was declared winner in the Tug Of War.

Super Hobo winners were: Men-1st Luis Garcia, 2nd Clark McGuire, 3rd Ed Bowers; Women - 1st Susan Handy, 2nd Rhonda Jaggers, and 3rd Teresa Everton.

A total of 347 students of Appomattox Public Schools participated in the Historic Appomattox Railroad Festival Student Art Contest, which culminated this weekend.

The winners of each age division will receive passbook savings accounts from American Federal Savings & Loan Association in the following amounts: first place - $25, second - $15, third - $10, and two honorable mentions at $5 each.

In the K-2 division, winners were as follows: first - Angelina Langhorne, second - Matt Wilkerson, third - Julie Notestein, and honorable mention - Jennifer White and Kevin Doss.

In grades 3 - 5, the following students were winners: first - Jason Ford, second - Angie Whitmer, third - Tracy Woods, and honorable mention - Katrina Archer and Matt Servis.

In grades 6 - 8, the winners were: first - Darren Tolley, second - Alex Almond, third - Roger Willis, and honorable mention - Ha Dung Quyen and Jeffrey Wyle.

The following students won in grades 9 - 12: first - Joe Brooks, second - Jackie Pankey, third - Donna Abernathy, and honorable mention - Walter Drewry and Jill Franklin.

All participants in the art contest are winners of a free computer photograph compliments of American Federal Saving & Loan Association.

Students are asked to come to American Federal at Triangle Plaza on Saturday, October 18 at the following times: winners are to come at 10 a.m. to pick up their passbook savings accounts and have a picture taken. All other participants should come at 11 a.m. for their computer photograph.

Richard Ferguson takes race

Richard Ferguson of Appomattox set a new course record in winning the Joe Sweeney 10-Kilometer Classic footrace during Saturday's Railroad Festival.

Ferguson ran the 6.2 mile course in 31 minutes, 20 seconds to break the old course record set by Mike Henderson of Amherst, whose time was 33:53.

A total of 193 runners registered for the race, which was run Saturday afternoon in warm, slightly humid weather.

John Turner of Hampden-Sydney finished second in the race with a time of 33:35, followed by Gary Darwell of Lynchburg, with a time of 33:36.

The first three women to finish the race were Cathy Taylor of Lynchburg, with a time of 42:56; Diane Taylor of Hampden-Sydney with a time of 43:29, and Candy Michalik of Lynchburg, with a time of 43:46.

Vicky Canada with a time of 60:19 was the first local woman runner to finish the race, and Amy Kerr (66:33) was the youngest and Louise Martin (66:58) the oldest female runners from Appomattox to finish the race.

Other male runners from Appomattox finished the race and their times are: Robert Pankey, 39:37 (first in the race in the age 40-49 category); Chris Miller, 39:49; Dickie Smith, 40:32; Roy Jennens, 42:22; Harold Cheatham, 46:09; Thomas Cunningham, 46:37; Robert Garrett, 47:12 Robert Smoak, 47:38; John Canada, 50:38; Mike Hendricks, 50:59; David Midgett, 51:57; Samuel Dickerson, 52:02; Robert Gray, 54:53; W. S. Kerr, 55:48; Allen Hamlett, 56:40; T. C. Harvey, III, 60:35; William Stone, Jr., 61:24; Gary Huskey, 65:29.

Other female runners from Appomattox who finished the race were: Mary Torrence, 64:28; Sally Coleman, 65:22; Jennifer Midgett, 66:28; Amy Kerr, 66:33; Katherine Gray, 66:35; Margaret Shields, 66:57 (third in age 40-49); and Louise Martin, 66:58 (first in age 50 and over category).

Race coordinator Ronnie Stevens after the event thanked Bill Hunter and the Farmers National Bank of Appomattox for their sponsorship of the race. "Putting on a 10-K race costs money," Stevens said, "and the Farmers Bank was there with a helping hand so that Appomattox could again this year have the race."

Robert Pankey

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